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blockade, reprisals, embargo, armed interventions and other measures which are short of actual war. Then entering into his subject proper, he takes up the legal relations of nations as affected by war after it has broken out, the laws of war in general, naval war, neutrality, the duties of neutral states and contraband of war. He deals with all these as general principles, and considers the action of the Hague Conferences separately.

The part of his work which concerns the conferences is perhaps the most interesting to students of peace and arbitration, who naturally want to know something of the recent provisions for the amelioration of war. He has three chapters: "The Laws of War on Land, being the Hague Regulations, with a Commentary," "The Hague Regulations Considered Generally," and "The Hague Conference of 1907." The preventive measures of 1907, such as obligatory arbitration, the permanent Court of Arbitration, the Drago Doctrine, and the limitation of armaments, coming under the laws of peace, are excluded from this volume. The new conventions that relate to the declaration of war, the Red Cross, submarine cables, the rights and duties of neutrals, the International Prize Court, the immunity of mail ships, the crews of captured merchantmen, bombardments and mines, are treated under special headings, with a few words on the discussions or votes in committee. The author also has excellent short articles on the different propositions made in regard to the immunity of private property at sea and contraband of war, in which he gives an indication of the direction which is being taken by public sentiment. The latter subject, though confined now for the most part to experts, is especially timely, for, though the Conference made but a beginning with it, it is likely to come up in international law conferences, in this country and in the Old World, until it is put on a satisfactory basis, the growing tendency being to eliminate contraband altogether.

Besides bringing his subject up to date, the author has succeeded in handling his topics in a way that will interest a large body of students who, both in and outside of the universities, are beginning to study international His literary form, while not a model for the essayist, which he does not pretend to be, is suited to his purpose. He makes no finely-spun distinctions which exhaust the patience of the reader in getting to the point, nor does he carry his analysis so far as to forget that a book should have a body as well as a frame. Professor Westlake has produced a solid, condensed commentary. There is not a pedantic line in his book. The quotations from Grotius and Bynkershoek are cut down, as in these days of more important authorities they should be. decisions of modern jurists are also given in brief, but there are plenty of references to actual cases which the student may look up for himself. There is just enough historical matter to give the principles color and make them intelligible. The author's point of view is never speculative, but now and then in a discriminating phrase or a suggestive sentence he explains a difficulty caused by an omission or by an obscure passage in the text which he has under consideration. He is always scientific. He occasionally gives opinions, but is not opinionated. Trying to write for the world, he keeps his British prejudices well in the background, but, in common with the majority of British leaders, he clings to the old "war right" of the capture of private property at sea. Externally his book is equally attractive. It is not a great leather-bound tome, but a work of such moderate size that one could easily take it with him on a journey, while it is bound in such good but simple taste that one would want to keep it on his study table among his favorite volumes for frequent use.

THE TERROR OF THE MACDURGHOTTS. By C. E. Playne. London: T. Fisher Unwin, Adelphi Terrace.

The scene of this story is located in the Northern Isles of Great Britain, the childhood home of a young woman returned after her mother's death from civilized London with a mind ready to contrast the conditions under which she has lived with those she is now to take up. It is the account of an unhappy experience with a fortunate outcome; an undercurrent of romance runs through the book ending in a wedding. The object of the author is to teach the principles of peace by the use of local characters and their conflicts. He portrays effectively the life of the natives: on the one hand, the class to which the heroine belongs, the knightly families who live in castles, but are obliged to spend their substance in paying guards to keep off invaders; then the common folk, with all their hatreds, feuds, inflammatory speeches, hooting onslaughts and murders.

It is a relief after reading all this to come to an era of sensible conciliation and goodwill. The story of the "Christ of the Andes" is cleverly used as a means of persuasion. The moral, the hope of the writer, is well summed up in a toast drunk by one of the characters in the closing chapter, in which he has a vision of universal peace. The speaker says: "The spirit of the present, which reigns at last in the Isles of the North as well as in the rest of Europe, is good. Small, personal strife is over; men live busy, useful lives — they no longer injure the bodies and properties of their fellows in small ways. No; when they fight, it is on a grand and 'glorious' scale. No longer is every man's hand against every man; it is every nation's cannon against every nation's cannon. But the present carries hidden in itself the seed of the future, just as the past had in it the seed of

"In the future it will be every man's hand with every man, and every nation agreeing quickly with every other nation, and reason ruling over all."

Some Neglected Aspects of War. By Capt. A.T. Mahan. Boston: Little, Brown & Co. 193 pages. Price, \$1.50 net.

It is well known that Captain Mahan believes that war is a necessity, and that it will continue to be so under the existing conditions of human nature and society. Physical force he conceives to be, to the nation, a sacred trust, which cannot be neglected except at the peril of the national life and character. Of this view he is perhaps the ablest defender in our country, and he makes his position all the more attractive by the excellent literary style in which he writes. One wonders how such a painstaking writer can ignore, as completely as he does, the rapid moral transformation of individuals and society and the consequent steady elimination of the use of brute force which marks the progress and constitutes the very essence of civilization. In this new book Captain Mahan brings

together in permanent form four essays previously published by him, and adds the article by Henry S. Pritchett on "The Power that Makes for Peace," which recently appeared in the Atlantic Monthly, and an essay by Julian S. Corbett, lecturer in History to the Naval War Course, on "The Capture of Private Property at Sea." Those who desire to know the best that can be said in behalf of the waning system of organized brute force will do well to read this collection of essays.

A PROPHET OF PEACE. Penned by Asenath Carver Coolidge. Pictured by Cassius M. Coolidge. Watertown, New York: Hungerford, Halbrook Co., 1907, 227 pages.

The principles of peace are being taught not only by tracts, lectures and treatises on international law, they come into all kinds of writing, and frequently appear in the present day story and novel. The "Prophet of Peace," a story with an old-fashioned farmhouse setting, illustrated generously by quaint and clever pictures of country life, teaches peace in some of the conversations held by its characters. While not a contribution of technical value to the literature of the peace movement, it has its use in calling the attention of the reader to the wisdom of peace and the mistakes of war.

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